

Message Text

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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O 022016Z JUL 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 156455 TOSEC 050095

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ENRG, IR, SA

SUBJECT: PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE

1. MY RECENT DISCUSSIONS ON THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE WITH YAMANI IN SAUDI ARABIA AND YEGANEH, ANSARY, AND THE SHAH IN IRAN HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY SEPARATE TELEGRAMS. BASED ON THESE DISCUSSIONS, I BELIEVE THAT WE COULD REACH AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN ON THE FOLLOWING APPROACH:

2. BASIC PLAN: GROUP OF 10 TO MEET FIRST WITH THE SAME LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AS AT THE APRIL PREPCON, AND AGREE ON ALL THE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS CITED BELOW BEFORE GIVING WAY TO THE GROUP OF 27 AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. THE LARGER GROUP WOULD FORMALLY LAUNCH THE THREE COMMISSIONS ON ENERGY, OTHER COMMODITIES, ASSISTANCE TO LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

3. IMPORTANT QUESTIONS -- TO BE RESOLVED IN ADVANCE:
(A) ENLARGED LAUNCHING GROUP: IT APPEARS THAT WE WILL

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LIKELY END UP WITH 27 PARTICIPANTS -- 8 INDUSTRIALIZED

NATIONS, 8 OPEC AND 11 LDC'S -- TO BE SELECTED BY THE RESPECTIVE GROUPS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 27 SHOULD BE FROM A NEUTRAL COUNTRY (NOT FRANCE), ROTATED AMONGST THE 3 PARTICIPATING GROUPS, OR POSSIBLY FROM THE UN.

(B) COMMISSIONS: THREE SEPARATE COMMISSIONS TO BE FORMED ON ENERGY, OTHER COMMODITIES AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES RELATIONS WITH FINANCIAL AND MONETARY QUESTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED IN EACH. (HOPEFULLY YAMANI'S DEMAND FOR A SEPARATE COMMISSION ON FINANCE AND MONETARY MATTERS CAN BE RESOLVED BY AGREEING TO SET UP A SUB-COMMITTEE UNDER THE ENERGY COMMISSION).

(C) COMMISSION PARTICIPANTS: PARTICIPANTS IN EACH COMMISSION TO BE SELECTED FROM AMONG THE GROUP OF 27 COUNTRIES BY USE OF OBJECTIVE CRITERIA MODIFIED AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO MEET ANTICIPATED POLITICAL PRESSURE. (THESE CRITERIA WOULD JUSTIFY US MEMBERSHIP IN ALL THREE COMMISSIONS BUT PRECLUDE MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIP FOR MOST OF THE 27.)

(D) GUIDELINES FOR COMMISSION PROGRAMS: GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE SCOPE OF EACH COMMISSION'S ACTIVITIES TO BE SET FOR THEM BASED LARGEMLY ON THE DRAFT AGENDA CONSIDERED AT THE APRIL PREPCON; MORE DETAILED AGENDAS TO BE DEVELOPED BY EACH COMMISSION. EACH COMMISSION WOULD PROCEED AT ITS OWN INDIVIDUAL PACE REFLECTING THE NATURE OF ITS TASKS AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA OPERATING IN THE SAME FIELD.

(E) COMMISSION LINKAGE: SOME FORM OF REGULAR CONTACT WILL BE MAINTAINED BETWEEN COMMISSIONS AND WITH OTHER FORA DEALING WITH THESE SUBJECTS. IN SPITE OF OUR CONTINUING OPPOSITION, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT MOST GOVERNMENTS WILL INSIST ON SOME ARRANGEMENT FOR PROGRESS REPORTS BACK TO THE GROUP OF 27. IN THIS EVENT, WE SHOULD PUSH FOR A LOOSE ARRANGEMENT WITHOUT FIXED SCHEDULES AND WITH AGREEMENT THAT THERE IS TO BE NO SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE IN THE GROUP OF 27 SO AS TO PREVENT ITS BECOMING A MINI-UN. (BOTH SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN WOULD SUPPORT THIS RESTRICTION.)

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4. ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE:

(A) ANNOUNCEMENT: THE PLAN FOR RESUMPTION OF THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE AND THE DATE OF THE GROUP OF 10 MEETING TO BE ANNOUNCED NOT LATER THAN AUGUST SO AS TO PRECEDE AND INFLUENCE THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 1 AND THE OPEC MEETING COMMENCING SEPTEMBER 24.

(B) GROUP OF 10 MEETING: TO TAKE PLACE IN PARIS IN EARLY OCTOBER (YAMANI IS STILL PUSHING FOR AUGUST, BUT IRAN FIRMLY SUPPORTS OUR VIEW THAT MORE TIME IS REQUIRED FOR CAREFUL PREPARATION.)

(C) GROUP OF 27 MINISTERIAL: TO TAKE PLACE (AT A SITE TO BE DECIDED) IN DECEMBER (AT LEAST 30-60 DAYS AFTER THE GROUP OF 10 MEETING TO ALLOW FOR SELECTION OF THE 17 ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS, ISSUANCE OF INVITATIONS AND CONCLUSION OF DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS.)

5. THE FOREGOING REPRESENTS MY JUDGMENT AS TO THE BASIS ON WHICH SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN WOULD SUPPORT RESUMPTION OF THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE. MY MEETINGS WITH VENEZUELA, BRAZIL (AND POSSIBLY ALGERIA) DURING EARLY AND MID-JULY COULD INDICATE THE DESIRABILITY OF SOME CHANGE IN THIS PLAN TO ENSURE THE SUPPORT OF THESE KEY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH WE WOULD WANT BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THIS PROGRAM. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, MEETING AGENDA, TOSEC, EXPORTERS, PRICES, IMPORTERS, CAT-C
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE156455
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CWROBINSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P850036-2256
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750790/aaaadcwg.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE
TAGS: ENRG, IR, SA, (YAMANI, AHMAD ZAKI), (ANSARY, HUSHANG), (ROBINSON, CHARLES W)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006